Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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APPROVED BY: EUR/RPM:WSHINN JR
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R 240206Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL NATO CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119129

FOLLOWING REPEAT NATO 3278 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
MADRID DTD 16 MAY

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 03278

MADRID FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY FOR VEST

FOL TEL REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO SENT SECSTATE AS NATO 3278

QUOTE
R 131942Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PFOR
SUBJECT: ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

SUMMARY: WE BELIEVE NATO SHOULD MOVE AHEAD SMARTLY WITH
THE EAST-WEST STUDY PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE NATO
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SUMMIT, AND SUGGEST IN THIS MESSAGE A SCENARIO FOR EARLY
COUNCIL ACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. WE BELIEVE THE US SHOULD OUTLINE PROMPTLY TO THE NAC
VIEWS ON HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELA-
TIONS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AND ENDORSED BY THE ALLIES
AT THE LONDON SUMMIT. WHILE THE STUDY IS ENVISAGED AS A

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PROJECT EXTENDING OVER THE NEXT YEAR, AN EARLY INDICATION OF US THINKING ON PROCEDURES WOULD BE USEFUL TO FORESTALL UNHELPFUL INITIATIVES BY OTHERS AND TO PUT THE PROJECT ON THE RIGHT TRACK BEFORE THE SUMMER HIATUS IN ACTIVITIES AT NATO HEADQUARTERS.

2. WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING APPROACH, WHICH SHOULD BE REVIEWED WITH SYG LUNS, AND THEN ADVANCED AT A PERMREPS LUNCH, TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR DISCUSSION AT AN EARLY COUNCIL MEETING:

--TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR). WE BELIEVE THE TOR APPROVED BY THE NAC SHOULD BE BRIEF, AND COULD EMBRACE THE OUTLINE USED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE SUMMIT: THE STUDY SHOULD "ASSESS FUTURE TRENDS IN THE SOVIET UNION, IN EASTERN EUROPE AND IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND ANALYZE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE TRENDS FOR THE ALLIANCE". A MORE DETAILED OUTLINE COULD BE DEVELOPED LATER, BUT WE WOULD HOPE TO AVOID A LENGTHY COUNCIL DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENTS AT THE OUTSET, REGARDING TERMS OF REFERENCE.
--DRAFTING. WE BELIEVE THE COUNCIL SHOULD CHARGE THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC) WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRAFTING THE REPORT. THE SPC COULD CALL ON THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE LATTER'S AREA OF EXPERTISE.

--CONTRIBUTIONS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT INITIAL CONTRIBUTIONS BE PROVIDED BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS, AND THAT WE REITERATE, AS THE PRESIDENT STATED, THE US IS
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PREPARED TO MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF, IN COOPERATION WITH THE SPC, WOULD MELD NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS INTO AN INITIAL DRAFT.

--PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT, AT APPROPRIATE STAGES IN THE DISCUSSION/DRAFTING PROCESS, SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE SPC OR COUNCIL MIGHT BE HELD WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS. SOME ALLIES MAY EXPRESS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS IN THE STUDY. HOWEVER, WE WOULD SUGGEST HOLDING OPEN THIS POSSIBILITY, BY INDICATING THAT EACH ALLY WOULD BE FREE TO SELECT ITS OWN EXPERTS, WHO WOULD HAVE APPROPRIATE CLEARANCES FOR PARTICIPATING IN NATO WORK.

--RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ALLIED STUDIES OF EAST-WEST ISSUES. QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED ABOUT POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION WITH THE STUDY OF ALLIED EXPERTS ON EASTERN EUROPE,WHO MEET AT NATO HEADQUARTERS IN THE SPRING AND FALL TO PRE-

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PARE ONE OF THE REGULAR SERIES OF REGIONAL EXPERTS
REPORTS, OR OF THE ATLANTIC POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (APAG),
WHICH MEETS ANNUALLY. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THESE BODIES
REMAIN SEPARATE -- EVEN THOUGH INDIVIDUAL ALLIES MAY WISH
THE SAME PERSONNEL THAT TAKE PART IN APAG OR REGULAR
EXPERTS MEETINGS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNCIL'S
EAST-WEST STUDY.

--NAC CONSULTATIONS. AS SUGGESTED ABOVE, NAC COULD REVIEW
THE DRAFT AT VARIOUS STAGES, LEAVING OPEN THE
POSSIBILITY OF EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS PARTICIPATING IN
SUCH CONSULTATIONS. MOREOVER, THE FINAL DRAFT SHOULD BE
CAREFULLY ADDRESSED BY THE NAC, WITH EXPERTS PRESENT IF
NEEDED.

--COMPLETION DATE. WE WOULD PLAN TO PRESS FOR AGREEMENT
TO COMPLETE THE REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MAY
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1978 SUMMIT COUNCIL MEETING, AS THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED.
--PUBLICATION. QUESTIONS MAY ARISE ABOUT WHETHER THE REPORT
SHOULD BE MADE PUBLIC, A MOVE SOME ALLIES WOULD LIKELY
RESIST. WE WOULD SUGGEST DEFERING A DECISION, MAINTAINING
THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE DRAFTS, AND PERHAPS SUGGESTING
AT SOME STAGE PREPARATION OF AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION.
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